

it just takes | one.

It Just Takes ONE Campaign  
Boys & Girls Clubs  
of South Puget Sound



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF SOUTH PUGET SOUND

The Honorable Kevin Martin, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

April 30, 2007

Re: Emergency Petition for Waiver of 47 C.F.R. § 76.1204(a)(1) of the City of Tacoma, d/b/a Click! Network

Dear Chairman Martin:

I am writing in support of Click! Network/Tacoma Power's waiver request so they may continue deploying low-cost set-top boxes after July 1, 2007, in order to meet the demands of their customers in our community.

Many of the families we service in this community are in need of low-cost options to help make the transition from analog television to digital as smooth as possible without rendering analog TVs useless. Some families and some of our clubs have more than one television and many sets can only receive analog signals. I understand that Click! has been deploying a low-cost (\$79 each) digital set-top box (Motorola DCT 700s) which Click! charges its customers \$1.50 per month. This low-cost option helps customers with multiple TVs to receive digital signals on as many sets as they can afford to connect. Please let Click! continue that practice.

I understand that in 1998 the FCC promulgated rules under Section 629 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 requiring the Commission to promote the availability of third-party set-top boxes and other consumer equipment for use in cable systems. In promulgating these rules, the FCC ruled that cable operators could no longer deploy new digital set-top boxes without CableCARDs after July 1, 2007. Unfortunately, CableCARD-compatible set-top boxes are expensive, outdated and do not provide two-way services (electronic guide, video-on-demand, DVR, etc.) customers demand. Without the waiver, Click! would have to pay at a minimum \$150 each for a CableCARD-compatible box. I am concerned that this extra cost may prevent Click! from being able to spend their capital in other, more urgent areas. Click! Network has been a strong business partner in our community and has provided our clubs serving many income-challenged homes with access to the Internet. Click! has provided us access for many years and has brought competition to the families we serve, thus keeping their cable TV and Internet costs lower. Our families need options like Click! in our communities. We all benefit.

Please consider granting Click! a waiver, so they can continue deploying digital services with their current budgeted low-cost boxes. Or at a minimum, consider deferring the set-top box integration ban until manufacturers can supply all cable companies with technology that will allow a transition into digital at reasonable rates.

Sincerely,

Gary Yazwa  
President/CEO

Cc: Cyndi Wikstrom, General Manager, Click! Network

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